

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-R-0270]

Emergency Clearance: Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

We are, however, requesting an emergency review of the information collection referenced below. In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following requirements for emergency review. We are requesting an emergency review because of an unanticipated event and the fact that the collection of this information is needed before the expiration of the normal time limits under OMB's regulations at 5 CFR, Part 1320. In order to assess and renovate internal systems and interfaces with business partners for Y2K, the Agency cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures. Without this information, HCFA will be unable to assess the millennium readiness status of the business partners and will be unable to make operational and contracting decisions to assure the safety and continuity of health care services provided to Medicare beneficiaries, and payments to providers of services. This request complies with the procedures for emergency clearance of Y2K surveys as outlined in the OMB memo dated 5/26/98.

HCFA is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection within 11 working days with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below, within 10 working days. During this 180-day period, we will publish a separate **Federal Register** notice announcing the initiation of an extensive 60-day agency review and public comment period on these requirements. We will submit the requirements for OMB review and an extension of this emergency approval.

Type of Information Request: New collection.

Title of Information Collection: Managed Care organization Year 2000 Continuity and Contingency Planning (BCCP) Status Report.

Form Number: HCFA-R-0270.

Use: This information is needed to determine the status of HCFA's business partners millennium readiness.

Frequency: Monthly.

Affected Public: Federal Government, Business or other for-profit, and Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 350.

Total Annual Responses: 4,200.

Total Annual Hours Requested: 44,450.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, and HCFA form number(s) referenced above, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. ADD WEB SITE ADDRESS to access S.S.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of information requirements. However, as noted above, comments on these information collection and recordkeeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below, within 10 working days:

Health Care Financing Administration,
Office of Information Services,
Information Technology Investment
Management Group, Division of
HCFA Enterprise Standards, Room
C2-26-17, 7500 Security Boulevard,
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850. Fax
Number: (410) 786-1415 Attn: Dawn
Willingham and,
Office of Information and Regulatory
Affairs, Office of Management and
Budget, Room 10235, New Executive
Office Building, Washington, DC
20503, Fax Number: (202) 395-6974
or (202) 395-5167 Attn: Allison
Herron Eydt, HCFA Desk Officer.

Dated: January 12, 1999.

John P. Burke III,

*HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA,
Office of Information Services, Information
Technology Investment Management Group,
Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Proposed Data Collection, Comment Request; American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST) Final Evaluation: "Strength of Tobacco Control Research Evaluation"

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Cancer Institute (NCI) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval.

PROPOSED COLLECTION: *Title:* American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST) Final Evaluation: "Strength of Tobacco Control Research Evaluation". *Type of Information Request:* New. *Need and Use of Information Collection:* "The Strength of Tobacco Control Research Evaluation" will collect data on financial resources, capacity, and specific efforts to control tobacco use. The data will be collected from professionals working in the field, in project management, and in senior agency administration within major state-level organizations concerned with tobacco control, in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The data will be used by the National Cancer Institute to evaluate the effectiveness of the American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST), a large-scale, 17-state demonstration project. Data will be used to develop a "strength of tobacco control" construct for use in evaluation of the overall ASSIST intervention. This study will also provide valuable information to Government agencies and to the general public necessary for tobacco control research. Data will be collected from September to November 1999, from approximately 1,428 individuals in 357 organizations in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. *Frequency of Response:* One-time study. *Affected*